IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Raymond et al.) Examiner: Nicholas W. Woodall
Application Serial No.: 10/813,819) Art Unit 3733
Filed: March 31, 2004) Confirmation No. 5056
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE) February 12, 2010

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

Please consider the following in response to the Office Action mailed on November 24, 2009. This response is being filed within the initial three-month period for response, to and including February 24, 2010, so no extensions of time are believed necessary. However, if any extensions are required, Applicants request that the Commissioner provide such extensions and authorize the Commissioner to deduct any associated fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed wis the Electronic Filing System (EFs) of The United States Patent and Trademark Office on Ectruary 12, 2010 (Date of Deposit) (Date of Deposit) Michael D. Beck Name of person filing Document or Fee Michael D. Beck/ Signature February 12, 2010

Date of Signature